

NEW SOUTH WALES.

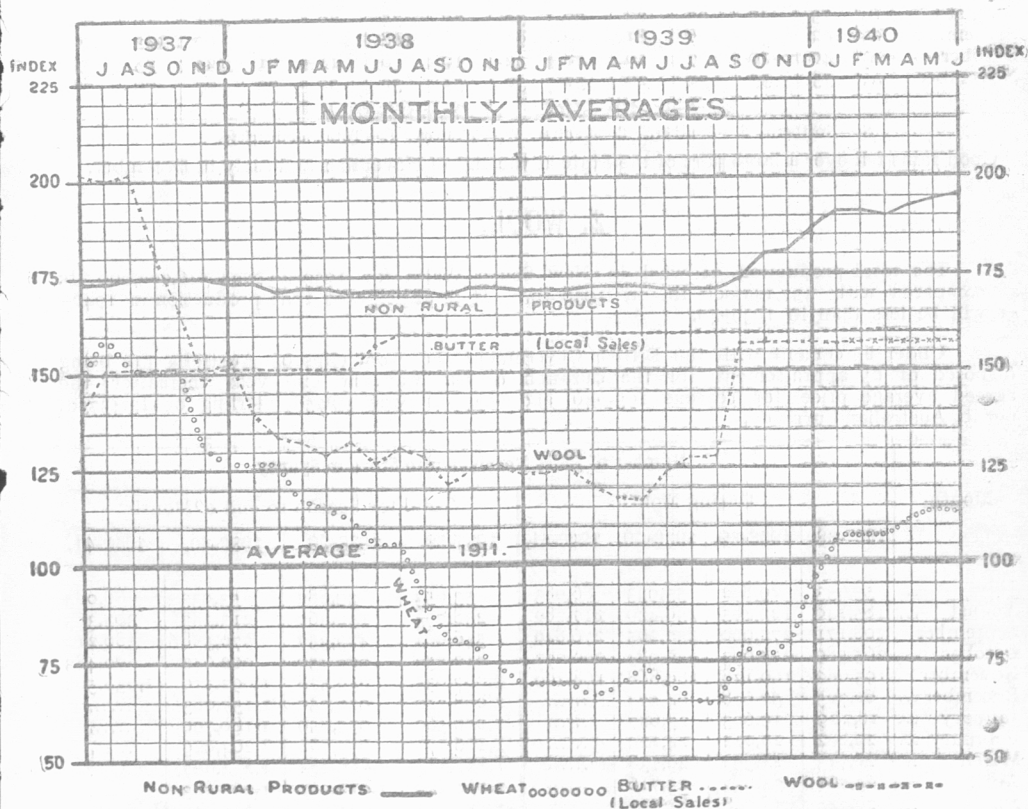
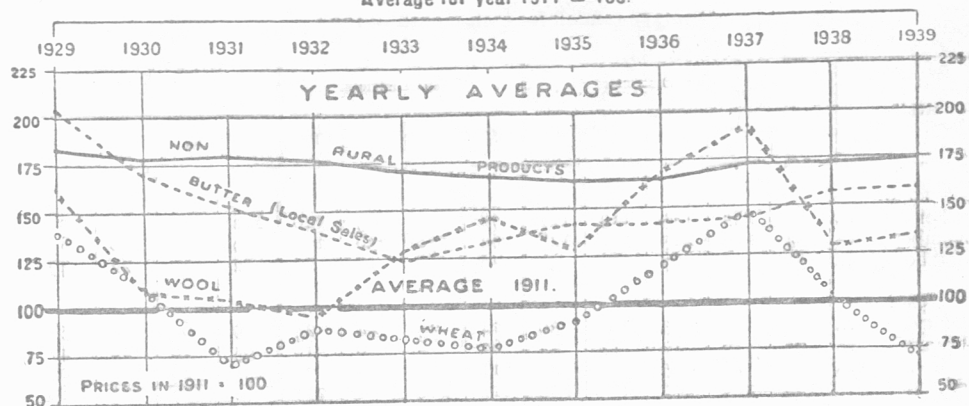
MONTHLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS STATISTICS.

No. 116. DECEMBER 23, 1940.

Issued by S. R. Carver, Government Statistician.

INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES (SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911 = 100.



All prices are in Australian currency. The indexes for recent months are shown in table 24 on page 11 of this summary. The footnotes to that table apply also to this graph.

* 60699—A

[Price, 3d.]

SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1939.													
October ...	82	135	145	113	121	78	140	153	140	252	160	95	208
November ...	64	144	213	188	148	62	178	239	201	89	65	126	87
December ...	58	27	27	24	35	43	28	22	26	62	30	22	49
1940.													
January ...	32	27	33	27	30	24	24	24	24	59	61	50	58
February ...	95	8	12	17	34	87	5	9	18	65	18	20	47
March ...	128	18	5	32	46	111	15	5	21	132	88	6	104
April ...	105	208	271	250	204	122	209	255	227	66	107	161	88
May ...	18	31	48	35	33	13	32	43	36	39	39	40	39
June ...	20	13	21	3	17	22	14	16	17	80	21	29	58
July ...	5	20	38	18	21	9	24	42	33	12	32	19	18
August ...	33	42	38	22	36	38	37	35	36	96	111	16	90
September ...	82	141	117	81	109	91	145	108	116	18	80	143	50
October ...	40	10	7	16	18	42	10	6	11	81	125	25	85
November ...	53	55	58	20	52	56	51	52	52	73	97	99	82

N.—Northern; S.—Southern; C.—Central; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

Good rains fell over a large part of the State at the end of November and early in December.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales for 1939-40 was 546,273,000 lb. as compared with 437,141,000 lb. in 1938-39. It is anticipated that production in 1940-41 will be less than in 1939-40.

Under agreement with the British Government the wool clips of Australia are being disposed of by appraisement for the duration of the war and one year thereafter; the agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 and 1940-41 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. per lb. Australian Currency.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
July ...	53,653	29,882	53,933	86,083	53,653	29,882	53,933	86,083
August ...	185,140	122,485	159,420	217,280	238,793	152,367	213,353	303,363
September ...	308,171	270,990	357,205	276,849	546,964	423,357	570,558	580,212
October ...	265,589	255,093	332,084	290,271	812,553	678,450	902,642	870,483
November ...	195,082	180,128	189,868	168,109	1,007,635	858,578	1,092,510	1,038,592
December ...	60,705	57,678	64,573	.....	1,068,340	916,256	1,157,083	.....
January ...	18,229	19,603	23,617	.....	1,086,569	935,859	1,180,700	.....
February ...	20,202	20,022	24,229	.....	1,106,771	955,881	1,204,929	.....
March ...	26,713	24,393	29,138	.....	1,133,484	980,274	1,234,067	.....
April ...	25,761	34,637	35,716	.....	1,159,245	1,014,911	1,269,783	.....
May ...	29,528	34,058	31,711	.....	1,188,773	1,048,969	1,301,494	.....
June ...	19,615	29,138	44,240	.....	1,208,388	1,078,107	1,345,734	.....

3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. (Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.)

Season.	Area Sown.		Yield for Grain.
	Total.	For Grain.	
	acres.	acres.	bushels.
Average 1930-31			
to 1939-40 ...	4,712,000	4,343,000	60,149,000
1938-39 ...	5,246,000	4,651,000	59,898,000
1939-40 ...	4,681,000	4,381,000	76,552,000

According to returns of wheatgrowers at time of sowing, the total area sown with wheat in 1940, was 4,679,000 acres, of which 4,335,000 acres were sown for grain. On conditions prevailing at 13th November, 1940, the Chief of the Division of Marketing forecast that the wheat crop for 1940-41 would be 28 million bushels.

Disposal of the harvest is controlled by the Australian Wheat Board, which administers compulsory pools.

4. BUTTER.

The production of butter in factories in the year ended June, 1940, was two per cent. less than in the previous season.

The exportable unsold surplus of Australian butter in 1939-40 and 1940-41 was purchased by the British Government at an agreed price for choicest butter of 137s. per cwt., f.o.b., Australian ports. The price of sales for local consumption has been fixed at 158s. 8d. per cwt. (wholesale) since June 8, 1938.

Month.	Output of Butter (New South Wales factories).				
	Average, 1932-33 to 1934-35	1937-38.	1938-39.	1939-40.	1940-41.
	Thousand lb.				
Year ended 30th June ...	135,664	115,930	113,841	112,020	
Four months ended Oct.	33,812	25,347	27,081	30,439	24,530
July ...	5,877	4,161	4,437	6,585	5,047
August ...	6,380	4,842	4,887	6,355	5,042
September ...	8,222	7,029	6,915	7,335	6,453
October ...	13,333	9,315	10,842	10,164	7,988
November ...	15,080	13,340	12,589	13,456	
December ...	16,254	15,168	11,423	13,822	
January ...	16,018	14,592	9,707	12,629	
February ...	14,529	14,019	10,826	10,602	
March ...	14,355	12,411	12,137	9,562	
April ...	11,084	9,088	11,880	9,165	
May ...	8,545	6,693	10,456	7,286	
June ...	5,987	5,272	7,742	5,059	

5. COAL.

The quantity of coal hauled by N.S.W. Government railways was 6,644,898 tons in the eleven months ended 30th November, 1940, compared with 7,819,539 tons in the corresponding months of 1939.

6. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

Tabulations embracing monthly returns from 42 large factories show the following results which afford some indication of trends in the manufacturing industry:—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.			
January...	2,616	2,766	2,738	3,212	212	231	231	235	786	928	950	1,004
February...	2,853	3,153	3,070	3,468	221	232	232	239	839	939	964	1,015
March...	3,147	3,570	3,406	3,562	222	232	229	239	839	949	961	1,024
April...	3,106	2,979	2,791	3,581	223	232	230	232	844	922	939	973
May...	2,938	3,241	3,242	3,498	222	233	230	231	853	961	954	964
June...	2,958	2,935	3,013	3,083	224	236	228	236	868	947	927	1,033
July...	3,064	3,029	2,961	3,512	227	238	228	241	871	975	950	1,072
August...	3,025	3,141	3,386	3,520	228	238	230	243	883	968	954	1,069
September...	3,231	3,407	3,669	3,634	229	237	231	248	903	967	974	1,088
October...	3,147	3,005	3,421	3,969	235	239	236	252	941	971	992	1,114
November...	3,437	3,305	3,841		236	240	239		959	989	1,018	
December...	3,452	3,327	3,606		236	236	240		1,000	1,008	1,045	
Average (January -October)...	3,008	3,123	3,170	3,504	224	235	230	240	863	953	956	1,036

For the volume of monthly employment in factories, see Table 21.

7. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded:—

Year.	Month of November.				September Quarter.			
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.		Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.		New Buildings and Additions.	
			No.	Value.	No.	Value.		
1937...	£ 1,129,363	£ 260,625	576	£ 688,017	1,220	£ 917,461	£ 4,584,759	
1938...	1,324,520	398,998	599	812,017	1,441	1,134,479	5,738,853	
1939...	796,673	85,592	490	627,351	1,247	847,759	4,894,496	
1940...	1,284,188	186,531	583	908,497	820	729,456	4,040,086	

* Including seven Shires adjoining Metropolitan Area. With few exceptions Shires do not supply returns.

More detailed information extending over a number of years is shown on pages 16 to 20 of the "New South Wales Statistical Bulletin" for September Quarter, 1940.

In order to obtain more comprehensive statistics of building activity, particulars of the value of contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental Authorities in New South Wales have been compiled since July, 1939. Details are:—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Additions.					
	Sydney and Suburbs.			New South Wales.		
	Permits for Private Buildings (as above).	Government Buildings.	Total Government and Private.	Permits for Private Buildings (as above). †	Government Buildings.	Total Government and Private.
Year ended 30th June, 1940...	11,437	1,053	12,490	16,489	2,590	19,079
Five months ended November—						
1939...	5,532	636	6,168	*	943	*
1940...	4,961	463	5,424	*	1,796	*
Month of November—						
1939...	797	39	836	*	121	*
1940...	1,284	111	1,395	*	228	*

* Not available. † Incomplete; returns are supplied only from areas comprising 73 per cent. of the total population of N.S.W.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

8. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	137·22	151·21	161·87	191·83	192·97	200·29	
Ten Months ended Oct. ...	112·54	124·03	133·37	157·31	159·03	164·44	167·63
January ...	9·87	10·85	11·27	13·74	14·21	13·24	16·33
February ...	10·37	10·82	12·72	14·64	15·73	16·54	14·64
March ...	10·92	12·39	13·11	15·43	15·79	15·78	16·97
April ...	11·25	12·00	13·45	16·45	16·83	15·79	17·88
May ...	11·64	13·14	13·44	16·50	16·87	17·46	14·85*
June ...	10·91	11·60	13·21	14·98	14·98	14·88	17·07
July ...	11·46	12·15	14·17	16·55	16·23	15·28	16·74
August ...	11·40	13·54	13·13	16·27	15·28	16·81	17·17
September ...	12·25	12·84	13·77	16·28	17·45	19·44	17·48
October ...	12·47	14·70	15·10	16·47	15·66	19·22	18·50
November ...	11·99	13·20	14·52	17·35	16·93	17·53	
December ...	12·69	13·98	13·98	17·17	17·00	18·32	

* Rate of tax increased from 6% to 8½% from 3rd May, 1940.

Statistics of monthly employment in wholesale trade are shown in Table 21.

9. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
Year ended December—								
1936	303	304	+ 6·2	+ 4·7	+ 6·4	+ 4·9		
1937	304	303	+ 7·7	+ 4·8	+ 10·5	+ 3·7		
1938	303	303	+ 4·8	+ 5·2	+ 11·6	+ 5·0		
1939	303	303	+ 2·4	+ 2·0	+ 2·6	+ 0·9		
Jan. - Oct., 1940	253	255	+ 5·7	+ 18·3	+ 3·7	+ 1·9		
1940.								
January	24	25	+ 7·8	+ 9·1	+ 4·7	+ 0·4	+ 3·8	+ 2·1
February	24	25	+ 10·6	+ 12·8	+ 6·5	+ 1·9	+ 6·2	+ 3·5
March	27	24	— 7·6	+ 19·2	+ 1·3	+ 2·1	+ 3·2	+ 4·2
April	22	25	+ 14·4	+ 19·6	+ 5·3	+ 1·5	+ 5·5	+ 4·3
May*	27	27	+ 7·0	+ 19·2	+ 3·2	+ 1·2	+ 4·5	+ 3·2
June*	25	24	— 2·1	+ 20·0	— 1·2	+ 0·3	+ 6·3	+ 2·4
July	26	27	+ 11·2	+ 23·5	+ 3·7	+ 0·5	+ 5·6	+ 2·0
August*	27	27	+ 12·7	+ 25·5	+ 2·2	+ 5·3	+ 7·3	+ 1·7
September* ...	26	25	— 1·0	+ 19·9	+ 4·3	+ 4·7	+ 7·5	+ 3·4
October	25	26	+ 5·6	+ 14·8	+ 7·0	+ 1·2	+ 5·5	+ 4·5

* May, 1940, June, 1939, August, 1940, and September, 1939, included five late shopping nights.

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 21.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

10. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of October.			Four Months ended 31st October.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938 ...	1,492,584	1,189,792	302,792	6,195,311	4,744,348	1,450,963
1939 ...	1,805,006	1,187,020	617,986	6,874,810	4,715,345	2,159,465
1940 ...	2,084,473	1,293,849	790,624	8,141,900	4,949,672	3,192,228

* Interest and Exchange on loan capital are not included as working expenses.

The amount of interest chargeable against the railways in 1939-40 was £5,350,000, exclusive of £1,210,750 sinking fund, exchange, etc.

	Month of October.		Four Months ended 31st October.	
	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.	Net Goods Ton-mileage.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1938 ...	113,578	17,065	565,794	63,966
1939 ...	159,031	15,848	633,653	59,708
1940 ...	203,904	16,173	879,746	62,554

* Goods (including wayleave) and livestock. Ton-mileage represents the weight times the distance (miles) it was carried.

All fares and certain rates of freight were increased by ten per cent. from 1st March, 1939.

11. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT—NEW SOUTH WALES.

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of October—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1938 ...	338,493	49,004	29,448	23,450	3,324	1,948
1939 ...	342,889	53,882	29,138	25,164	3,783	2,103
1940 ...	373,080	54,291	32,023	27,454	4,896	2,224
Four Months ended 31st October—						
1938 ...	1,295,884	154,235	112,991	91,575	13,867	7,588
1939 ...	1,329,913	177,326	113,562	98,129	15,893	8,128
1940 ...	1,399,713	228,594	120,301	104,592	21,253	8,581

* Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Depreciation (amounting in 1939-40 to £671,000) are not included as working expenses.

† Excludes Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

12. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.

Class.	30th November, 1938.	1939.		1940.				
		31st August.	30th November.	31st March.	30th June.	30th September.	31st October.	30th November.
Cars ...	209,740	216,633	216,148	214,603	209,510	204,818	204,980	205,828
Lorries and Vans ...	75,791	77,639	77,589	76,448	75,590	74,720	75,053	75,371
Trailers ...	5,636	6,538	6,649	7,008	7,129	7,104	7,154	7,275
Tractors† ...	935	1,102	1,180	1,201	1,209	1,186	1,205	1,217
Cycles—Solo ...	17,304	17,111	16,666	15,785	15,283	14,935	14,970	15,002
Cycles—Side-car ...	6,927	6,884	6,617	6,447	6,269	6,117	6,102	6,109
Omnibuses ...	738	794	819	825	823	851	857	859
Taxi-cabs ...	1,255	1,331	1,340	1,352	1,355	1,356	1,357	1,357
Traders' Plates	1,168	1,187	1,210	1,084	1,066	1,038	1,043	1,036
Total ...	319,494	329,219	328,218	324,753	318,234	312,125	312,721	314,054

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov..
1936	375	321	301	323	332	344	157	174	163	171	172	193
1937	497	451	414	415	421	483	218	202	210	200	221	240
1938	383	357	340	368	343	428	155	156	147	181	177	202
1939	376	305	322	270	314	368	141	133	146	126	145	169
1940	115	63	88	118	128	173	70	60	53	63	61	77

* Excluding trailers and vehicles of defence services.

13. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.
(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
April ...	307,817	348,384	397,911	428,848	451,218
June... ..	315,731	358,292	403,978	433,029	458,155
August ...	327,232	370,289	414,747	431,029	475,761
September ...	330,902	376,783	417,853	432,795	479,485
October ...	336,091	378,728	419,912	435,573	483,148

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

14. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (N.S.W.).†

As at June 30th.†	Amount of Deposits.	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.		
			1938.	1939.	1940.
1929	£ 85,727,514	January ...	£ 83,282,881*	£ 86,824,101*	£ 86,715,917*
1930	82,465,430	February ...	83,697,582*	86,591,320*	87,167,025*
1931	69,810,769	March ...	83,989,040	86,269,445	86,758,977
1932	71,647,869	April ...	84,211,474*	86,222,208*	87,055,576*
1933	72,307,685	May ...	84,310,498*	86,097,258*	85,179,395*
1934	75,714,070	June ...	86,015,685†	87,473,789†	82,110,900†
1935	77,906,402	July ...	85,952,874*	87,201,203*	82,134,989*
1936	79,999,948	August ...	86,309,959*	86,957,281*	83,073,876*
1937	81,952,399	September ...	86,436,219	86,557,014	83,827,434
1938	86,015,685	October ...	86,763,372*	86,751,263*	84,568,103*
1939	87,473,789	November ...	86,341,441*	86,684,205*	85,109,821*
		December ...	86,645,354	86,581,054	...

* Approximate.

† Including accrued interest.

‡ Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The amount received from sales of certificates in New South Wales totalled £4,746,622 at 31st October, 1940.

15. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

September Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Advances.
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1938 ...	310,902	32,688	16,966	20,123	287,095
1939 ...	315,595	31,390	19,095	21,950	294,421
1940 ...	344,869	39,959	34,210	43,735	286,648

* Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

16. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

September Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Advances over Deposits.
	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Total.		
	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £	thousand £
1938 ...	62,570	47,295	109,865	120,845	10,980
1939 ...	64,567	50,041	114,608	124,189	9,581
1940 ...	65,025	62,338	127,363	119,228	(-) 8,135

(—) Denotes an excess of Deposits over Advances.

17. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
	Amount—Million £							Index Numbers.						
January ...	59.5	56.9	66.4	76.7	67.5	66.5	82.7	78	75	89	101	97	98	110
February...	59.3	59.7	69.2	77.4	75.6	75.5	88.9	77	75	86	101	96	96	110
March ...	58.8	57.7	69.9	77.2	82.6	80.5	87.8	75	74	85	98	95	93	107
April ...	52.8	61.3	63.5	80.6	75.7	70.7	84.3	74	78	87	103	102	98	111
May ...	61.7	64.9	68.4	76.1	82.9	82.0	90.2	74	79	86	100	103	100	111
June ...	72.1	73.7	69.5	79.2	86.8	80.3	94.5	78	86	87	103	106	101	115
July ...	54.8	61.2	65.1	75.0	70.5	71.2	94.6	76	83	85	97	101	98	116
August ...	47.8	59.6	61.9	70.0	72.9	74.9	83.6	73	84	86	98	101	99	118
September	61.7	62.5	68.1	79.8	77.6	74.9	84.5	73	82	87	101	99	99	117
October ...	63.7	72.2	76.6	80.1	79.5	78.0	90.1	76	85	91	101	101	100	113
November	63.2	75.1	79.7	81.3	82.7	86.1	93.5	80	89	96	103	102	102	114
December	60.7	71.2	84.3	83.9	88.1	91.7		77	90	99	101	102	106	
Year ...	716.1	776.0	842.6	937.3	942.4	932.3		76	82	89	101	101	100	

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

18. INTEREST RATES IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Period.	First Mortgages Registered.* Proportion of Total Amount for which Rates are disclosed.					Australian Consolidated Loans.† Interest yield (including Redemption) on all Securities Repayable:—			
	Rate of Interest per cent per annum.					Over 5 to 10 Years.	Over 10 to 15 Years.	Over 15 Years.	Over 5 Years. (over all Rate.)
	4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.				
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent—Per annum.			
1935	46	30	18	4	2	£ 3 9 7	£ 3 10 1	£ 3 13 9	£ 3 11 1
1936	39	37	18	4	2	3 16 10	3 17 6	3 18 9	3 17 8
1937	32	39	24	3	2	3 16 4	3 17 5	3 18 1	3 17 4
1938	30	38	25	5	2	3 14 5	3 15 0	3 15 10	3 15 0
1939	18	34	37	8	3	3 17 9	3 18 4	3 18 4	3 18 1
1940-March	16	33	38	10	3	3 10 10	3 12 0	3 12 5	3 11 8
June	14	37	38	8	3	3 5 8	3 8 1	3 8 0	3 7 4
July	13	40	37	7	3	3 5 9	3 7 9	3 8 8	3 7 3
August	15	39	36	7	3	3 5 7	3 7 3	3 8 1	3 6 10
September	16	39	36	6	3	3 4 0	3 6 5	3 7 10	3 5 11
October	16	36	39	6	3	3 2 10	3 6 2	3 8 1	3 5 5
November	17	39	36	6	2	3 1 0	3 4 10	3 7 4	3 4 1

*Interest rates on first mortgages are the average for the three months ended in the month shown.

†Minimum prices for sales of Consolidated Loans on Stock Exchanges in Australia were fixed from 15th June, 1940.

19. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1936.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1936.†	1937.	1938.†	1939.†	1940.
	Thousand £.									
January ...	2,153	2,954	2,383	2,449	1,884	1,241	1,861	1,771	1,591	1,480
February ...	2,564	2,596	3,285	2,438	2,524	1,200	1,688	1,868	1,841	1,428
March ...	3,090	2,992	3,280	3,623	2,464	3,030	2,134	2,036	2,225	1,686
April ...	3,033	2,792	2,770	2,245	2,392	1,389	1,607	2,359	2,025	1,560
May ...	2,317	2,716	3,989	3,090	2,908	1,376	1,850	2,727	2,112	1,449
June ...	2,839	2,879	2,898	2,613	2,464	1,756	1,842	2,604	1,658	1,305
July ...	3,288	4,692	2,894	2,919	3,217	1,668	2,550	2,285	1,950	1,747
August ...	2,787	2,925	4,262	3,068	2,259	1,686	1,771	2,184	2,770	1,099
September ...	2,815	2,665	3,079	2,934	3,149	1,563	1,593	2,085	1,501	1,240
October ...	2,508	3,079	3,111	2,330	2,885	2,270	2,241	2,153	1,713	1,144
November ...	3,212	3,478	2,671	2,381	2,430	1,504	2,694	2,565	1,702	1,259
December ...	2,940	3,585	2,797	2,067		1,831	1,980	2,343	1,344	
Year ...	33,546	37,353	37,419	32,157		20,511†	23,811	26,967†	22,444†	
Eleven Months ended 30th November	30,606	33,768	34,622	30,090	28,576	18,683	21,831	24,637	21,088	15,397

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

† Totals for months are approximate and aggregate differs slightly from annual total.

The average monthly transactions for period 1925-1929 were:—Sales, £4,619,000; and Mortgages, £4,042,000.
 Note.—Mortgages and liens in some instances secure fluctuating advances, the amount of which is not recorded in the legal instruments. The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security of subsisting mortgages are included.

In the eleven months ended 30th November, 1940, mortgages, exclusive of those providing collateral security, amounted to £11,933,000 as compared with £18,948,000 and £21,766,000 in the corresponding period of 1939 and 1938 respectively.

20. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of November.			Eleven Months ended 30th November.		
	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.	Crops.	Wool.	Livestock.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1938 ...	27,537	172,518	176,275	1,842,008	2,685,865	1,671,368
1939 ...	64,657	165,129	127,168	1,906,434	2,815,268	1,422,927
1940 ...	34,442	158,982	123,412	1,758,092	2,963,688	1,319,925

See note under Table 19.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

21.—EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

(APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN MIDDLE WEEK OF MONTH.)

Month.	Total in Employment. (a)	Total in Private Employment.	Total Employed in Factories.	Number Employed by Employers with 10 or more Employees in—			
				Mines.	Retail Trade.	Wholesale Trade.	Offices and Commerce.
1933—June (b) ...	594,273	477,577	139,744	15,504	38,544	17,638	20,340
1938—October ...	837,413	689,027	230,700	19,750	51,193	25,664	27,611
November...	841,373	692,534	230,800	21,719	52,340	25,814	27,638
1939—August ...	831,806	680,300	224,700(c)	21,679	51,253	25,420	27,060
Sept'mb'r(d)	838,435	687,076	227,400(c)	21,362	51,176	25,539	27,653
October (d)	850,049	700,389	232,600(c)	21,308	51,615	25,926	28,349
November(d)	856,861	706,469	236,700(c)	21,034	52,658	26,200	29,088
1940—August (d)	872,026	714,688	243,900(c)	21,017	51,728	25,924	29,100
Sept'mb'r(d)	875,726	719,777	246,200(c)	21,135	51,382	25,873	29,246
October (d)	882,161	724,971	249,600(c)	21,275	51,600	25,830	30,051
November(d)	885,808	728,178	252,500(c)	21,210	53,199	26,028	30,452

(a) Excluding Rationed Relief Workers.

(b) Census of 30th June.

(c) Subject to revision.

(d) Excluding men in the Forces who were not on pay sheets of private employers.

22.—INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT—N.S.W.

The following indexes relate to total employment and unemployment in New South Wales. Owing to the incidence of enlistments and entry into wage earning employment of persons not normally wage earners, it is not possible to compile an index of employment and unemployment for May, 1940, and later months, until further data are obtained.

Middle of Month.				Proportion of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
				(a) Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers as employed.		(b) Excluding part-time relief workers from employed.	
				Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
				per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
1933—June Census	...	...	...	74·4	25·6	73·5	26·5
1938—April	...	...	...	96·0	4·0	94·9	5·1
May	...	...	...	95·8	4·2	94·8	5·2
1939—April	...	...	...	94·6	5·4	93·5	6·5
May	...	...	...	94·3	5·7	93·3	6·7
1940—April	...	...	...	94·0	6·0	93·3	6·7

NOTES.—(1) The index of employment is the ratio of number in employment (first column of Table 21) to estimated number of wage earners available for employment. The index of unemployment is the residue, but both indexes are derived by adjusting the census ratios in accordance with subsequent changes in number in employment and number estimated to be available for employment.

(2) "Number in employment" is virtually a direct record; "number of available wage earners" is an estimate derived by increasing the total of wage earners in employment (plus unemployed) at the Census of 1933 in ratio to the annual increase in persons aged 15 to 64 years, separate calculations being made for the sexes, and allowance made for net immigration. In order to increase the degree of precision in the index, adjustment is made in the number of available wage earners thus estimated to allow for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage earners (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made except in respect of casual retail employees in December. Since the outbreak of war, adjustment is due on account of enlistments in naval, military and air forces, and on account of persons (not formerly of the wage-earning group), who have entered employment.

(3) At the census of 1933, 15,142 persons, or 1·8 per cent. of total dependent on employment, were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, etc., or voluntarily. These are excluded from the above indexes which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

(4) The percentages of unemployment shown above are approximations relating to all wage earners of both sexes. Separate estimates for males and females cannot be made from the data available.

23. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3.412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1937.	1938.	1939.	1940.
January ...	100	103	101	96	93	98	100	110	114	119	125	136
February ...	100	105	98	97	95	97	100	112	115	122	125	135
March ...	100	102	101	97	95	98	99	111	115	121	130	130
April ...	100	104	100	96	96	96	101	110	119	119	125	137
May ...	100	106	100	94	95	97	100	110	117	122	128	128
June ...	100	103	100	97	99	97	103	114	124	127	131	135
July ...	100	105	99	96	97	96	100	112	122	126	134	139
August ...	100	106	100	94	97	101	103	107	120	128	135	137
September ...	100	108	98	94	97	99	101	113	118	123	134	134
October ...	100	109	97	94	96	99	104	113	119	121	135	137
November ...	100	109	96	95	97	103	104	116	124	124	136	139
December ...	100	105	98	97	99	101	106	116	122	124	131	
Year	100	105	99	96	96	98	102	112	119	123	131	

24. INDEX OF WHOLESALE PRICES

(SYDNEY).

Average for year 1911=100 in all cases. Australian Currency.

Period.	Wool.	Wheat.	Butter (Local Sales).	Non- Rural.†	100 Com- modities Average.
1911 ...	100	100	100	100	100
1929 ...	162	140	204	184	186
1931 ...	105	70	154	180	155
1932 ...	96	88	140	177	152
1933 ...	127	82	124	172	151
1934 ...	147	77	133	167	150
1935 ...	128	92	142	165	153
1936 ...	168	120	142	165	156
1937 ...	193	148	146	173	168
1938 ...	129	101	157	172	168
1939 ...	135	73	160	175	164
1939—August ...	123	64	160	172	159
September ...	158§	79	160	174	165
December ...	158§	97	160	187	170
1940—January ...	158§	108	160	192	172
February ...	158§	108	160	192	173
March ...	158§	108	160	191	174
April ...	158§	112	160	193	178
May ...	158§	114	160	193	178
June ...	158§	114	160	195	178
July ...	158§	114	160	195	176
August ...	158§	113	160	195	181
September ...	158§	113	160	195	182
October ...	158§	113	160	196	185
November ...	158§	113	160	198	187

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

Parities in January, 1929=100 in all cases.

Average Rates of Exchange.‡		
Australia on London.	London on New York.	Australia on New York.
100	...	...
102	100	102
128	107	140
125	139	174
125	115	143
125	97	120
125	99	124
125	98	122
125	98	123
125	99	124
125	110	137
125	106	132
125	120	150
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151
125	121	151

† Approximate; the above table expresses in the form of an index the amount of currency of the country first mentioned required to buy a fixed quantity of the second named country's currency.

‡ Based on price paid by British Government for the Australian clip.

§ Includes only those (non-rural) primary, manufactured and imported commodities which are included in the index for 100 commodities. Highly manufactured articles are not included. The individual items are listed on pages 488 and 489 of the "Official Year Book of New South Wales" for 1920.

25. WHOLESALE PRICE LEVELS OVERSEA.

	Year 1938.	Year 1939.	1939.	1940.								
			Aug.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Great Britain—Board of Trade (1930=100)	101.4	102.8	98.1	128.3	128.8	132.2	133.7	134.4	139.7	140.1	141.0	...
United States — Irving Fisher (1926=100)	81.2	80.9	78.2	84.6	84.2	84.4	83.8	82.5	81.9	81.2	82.0	82.9*

* Three weeks.

26. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1928	2	2.79	19	11 7	26	5 8	219	7 5	4	4 11
1929	2	0.57	21	14 5	25	19 5	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938	2	0.14	17	12 11	19	12 10	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939	2	1.42	17	12 1	19	15 3	268	3 6	9	14 4
1940 — May	2	2.18	18	12 8	21	17 9	301	18 7	10	13 3
June	2	3.19	18	11 9	24	5 8	316	10 1	10	13 0
July	2	2.64	18	10 2	24	5 8	301	3 5	10	11 0
August... ..	2	3.90	18	16 5	21	17 9	298	10 1	10	12 6
September	2	4.33	18	8 3	24	12 11	287	9 7	10	13 3
October	2	4.34	18	5 5	22	10 6	294	17 7	10	14 0

27. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values; adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179.3	183.8	129.4	174.1	243.5	174.4	172.6
Sept., 1931 \$	72.3	60.2	87.9	75.2	121.3	74.4	77.2
Mar., 1937 \$	213.8	203.8	181.0	169.2	281.2	190.4	200.5
1940—Jan. ...	229.0	174.0	151.9	131.8	269.9	181.6	195.2
June ...	186.8	138.4	128.6	109.8	233.3	150.6	160.0
July ...	191.9	138.1	128.5	104.8	225.3	150.9	162.3
August	197.3	149.9	131.1	112.2	226.5	155.4	168.2
Sept....	207.0	157.5	133.5	116.4	234.9	162.1	176.4
Oct. ...	215.4	164.6	133.9	117.8	251.8	168.3	184.3
Nov. ...	219.9	174.1	140.3	120.8	256.7	172.8	186.2

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. § The highest point of the index, prior to the slump, was reached in April 1929, the lowest in September, 1931, and the highest point in March, 1937.

The population of N.S.W. at 30th June, 1940, was 2,783,043 or 39 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1939, 1,302,890).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the 20th of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

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The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

23rd December, 1940.